



~CONTRACTOR SUMMARIES~

St. Joseph Health System

Industry: Healthcare

Program: Non-Profit Nursing

Attracting and Retaining Skilled Nursing Professionals

Serving Humboldt County, the St. Joseph Health System (SJHS) is a non-profit, full-service community health care provider comprised of two hospitals: St. Joseph Hospital in Eureka, and Redwood Memorial Hospital in Fortuna. A member of St. Joseph Healthcare (which is spread across 14 hospitals in California, West Texas, and East New Mexico), the SJHS is based out of St. Joseph Hospital in Eureka, which was opened in its present location in 1954. St. Joseph Hospital has 174 beds, and Redwood Memorial Hospital has 25 critical care beds. Together, these hospitals employ a total of 390 Registered Nurses.

On January 29, 2010, in an effort to help SJHS meet its goal to strengthen its nursing facilities as well as to attract and retain skilled nursing professionals, the Panel approved a contract using federal funds under the federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA). Training included: Medical Skills Training didactic, Medical Skills Training clinical with preceptor, continuous improvement, and computer skills. **SJHS received \$264,319 in ETP training funds which trained 89 Registered Nurses.**

The contractor's representatives reported that the training program was successful. **The hospital hired and trained 30 new graduate nurses which was in line with the funding proposal goal. ETP-funded training provided expanded hands-on and in-class training for the new graduates and enhanced the education available for incumbent nurses. Extensive training provided to incumbent nurses transferring to different specialty areas prepared them for new responsibilities.**